

Serial Number 09/530,968

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2, and claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 15.

It is believed that the amendments overcome not only the rejection of claims 1, 4, 6-14, and 18-25 under 35 USC §103(a), pursuant to the indication of allowable subject matter on page 9 of the final Office Action dated July 14, 2006, but also the rejection of the same claims under 35 USC §112, 1st Paragraph.

The objections in item 3 on pages 3-4 of the Official Action are also believed to have been overcome by the amendments. To the extent that the objections have not been overcome, the Applicant hopes that the Examiner will call the undersigned to discuss possible amendments that will overcome the objections. Reasons for traversing the objections are found on page 5 of the Pre-Appeal Brief Request For Review submitted on December 19, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

Date: March 16, 2007

By:  BENJAMIN E. URCIA
Registration No. 33,805

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

NWB:S:\Product\Dev\Pending A...HFGROSSETTIE - 530968\07.wpd